JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Government is not aware of any changes in the procedure for issue of visas to Indians visiting the U.K.

(c) Yes, Sir. Indians can continue to apply for British visas with the usual documents, as per the prevailing rules of British visa services.

(d) The Government reserves the right to take reciprocal action in the event that such rules and guidelines are changed for issue of visas to Indian by the British Government.

ISI activities

59. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the ISI has spread its wings in Nepal;

(b) whether any news item appeared in media have suggested that a large quantity of food stuff finds its way into Indian consumer market and because of large number of dealers using such products, any adulteration mischief can lead to a situation like dropsy; and

(c) what steps, Government plans to take to rectify such a situation?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) Government are aware of and concerned about the Pakistan's Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) agency misusing the territory of Nepal for activities inimical to India's interests. Both sides have agreed to jointly coordinate measures to prevent the misuse of the open India-Nepal border to counter activities directed against India.

Government are aware of media reports suggesting that a large quantity of food stuff finds its way into the Indian consumer market. The Ministry of Health has issued the requisite notification under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 for appropriate checking of foodstuff entering India from abroad, including from

Nepal, with a view to ensuring that adulterated food items do not find their way into the Indian market.

Opening of Consulates in Kerala

60. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of thirty lakhs Indians working in the Gulf countries, more than a half hail from Kerala and they have often to shuttle between Kerala and Delhi/Mumbai for attestation of travel documents and visas clearance;

(b) whether a consular presence of at least some of the Gulf countries like Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. UAE, Kuwait and Bahrain in the order of preference based on the Keralite population in these countries is required; and

(c) whether Government would take efforts at diplomatic level to open the Consulates of the above countries in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) All Indian nationals, including those from Kerala, need to approach the concerned Embassy in New Delhi or the concerned Consulate in the nearest city for obtaining visa and attestation of documents.

(b) and (c) Consular presence outside the capital city is considered by the foreign governments on the basis of their own assessment of their requirements and resources.

Release of funds under MPLADS

61. SHRI C.O. POULOSE:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount sanctioned, allocated and released to each Member of Parliament under MPLADS since 1995; year-wise;